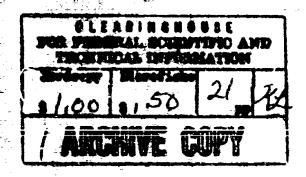
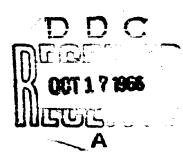


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Technical Report

AD 640 114

MECHANIZATION STUDY
OF THE AIR FORCE
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY LIBRARY,
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO

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BAARINC Report No. 914-1-19

September 1966

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ABSTRACT

The Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) Library uses an IBM 1401 computer to produce a list of journal holdings, alphabetically arranged and provided with an abbreviation glossary. At present, one list has been produced and circulated. Input to the system is EAM cards with journal data. Because of difficulties in obtaining use of the computer—which is not owned by the Library—within a reasonable time, the Library has decided to abandon computer mechanization and to use instead Library—owned Flexowriter equipments interfaced with supplemental EAM card punch, sorter, and reader.

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- A. ORGANIZATION OF AFIT
- B. PROGRAM SYSTEM FLOW DIAGRAMS AND SAMPLE PRINTOUTS

I. SUMMARY

The Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) Library uses a computer to produce a list of journal holdings. Input to this operation consists of EAM cards with journal data; output is the journal holdings list alphabetically arranged and provided with an abbreviation glossary. To date, one such list has been produced and circulated. The program used is written in SPS language for the IBM 1401 computer.

AFIT is a part of the Air University system. Its organization, charted in Appendix A, includes a School of Engineering, a Civil Engineering Center, a School of Systems and Logistics, and a Defense Weapons Systems Management Center. AFIT also conducts the Minuteman Educational Program at five western sites. It is a graduate school and is accredited for both undergraduate and master's degrees. A doctoral program was initiated in June 1965. The Library is, therefore, an educational library rather than a technical library for professional workers.

The Library serves a resident student population of about 600 with 75,000 books, 1,250 periodicals, 25,000 documents, and 3,000 theses. The monthly circulation rate is 3,000 books and theses,

10,600 periodical titles, and 1,800 documents. There are over 105,000 AEC titles and 1,600 documents on microform. The stacks are open for all users. Bibliographic searches are not performed for students. Rather, an effort is made by the staff to instruct them in the methods of searching on their own. Materials are selected by the Library staff and by instructors. Library of Congress cards are used for cataloging, and classification is by the Dewey Decimal System. New books and reports are announced in a manually produced, semimonthly acquisitions list.

II. MECHANIZATION

1. CHRONOLOGY

In January 1965, the AFIT data center was consulted about the feasibility of mechanizing production of the journal holdings list. This step was taken to reduce the steadily rising manual bookkeeping effort and to develop a background in mechanization for educational purposes. After feasibility was established, program development began immediately, leading to the first printing of the list in June 1965. The steps in this development were as follows:

- Selected data for EAM card punching Entered 1,540 titles on EAM card worksheet
- . Punched cards and programmed 1401
- . Checked EAM cards
- . Printed out list for proofreading
- . Made final printout

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROCESSES

The system flow diagrams of the program for producing the journal holdings list, and examples of the printouts, are shown in

Appendix B. Input data are punched onto 80-column EAM cards in Hollerith code. The program reads the cards (assembled alphabetically) and prints the information punched on them on sheets in a format suitable for binding in the list of journal holdings.

(1) Input Procedures

The following data are punched on an EAM card for each title:

Card Columns	Data
1-41	Title
42 - 45	Number of entry
47	Mark to indicate title change
49 - 52	Number of former title (if any)
54-57	Number of new title
59-61	Starting volume
63-65	Ending volume
67-69	Starting year
71-73	Ending year
75	Microform or hard copy
77-80	Library location

In order to confine the data to one card per title, subscription information is not included, nor is there an indication of gaps in the holdings. Five decks of these cards have been punched: one is manually updated for the next list printout, one is hand sorted for renewal date (the journal expiration date is typed on manually), and three decks are for branch library reference.

(2) Output

The program produces the holdings list arranged alphabetically as shown in Appendix B-6. Each title is assigned a number which forms a cross-reference between a superseded title and its replacement. In addition, nine columns of data are listed which describe the holdings. The abbreviations used for these columns are explained in a printout referred to as the Column Heading Identification and Location Code Definitions List (Appendix B-4). Also on this sheet is a list of library branch code identifications. Abbreviations used in the journal titles are defined in a printout called an Abbreviation Glossary (Appendix B-2). Information for the Glossary and Column Heading Identification printouts is fixed and entered as part of the program.

3. MAJOR PROBLEMS

Development of the program and production of the first mechanized list took nearly six months. It was estimated that a clerk-typist could have typed the same information on multilith mats in less than two weeks. The delay was due to inexperience in the programming, card errors, and format revisions. It is expected that updating the list in the future, besides being a simpler process than producing the first list, will benefit from experience and will require much less time.

Another problem resulted from the fact that, in order to simplify bookkeeping and programming, journal data were confined to one EAM card per title. This limitation presented a problem both in establishing what data to include and in the file weakness that resulted from the exclusion of such data as gap and renewal information and costs. However, data on gaps (unless very broad), renewal periods, and costs were not essential to a Library holdings list.

There were difficulties in obtaining use of the computer within a reasonable time. Because of this, the Library has decided to abandon computer mechanization in favor of operations with Library-owned Flexowriter equipments interfaced with supplemental EAM card punch, sorter, and reader.

4. ACTIVITIES BEING PLANNED OR DEVELOPED FOR MECHANIZATION

Four years ago the Institute began giving courses in reliability and maintainability. The Library has been collecting and cataloging a large collection of documents on this subject and has been distributing to the students a bibliography, on cards, of the collection.

A deck of EAM cards is hand sorted in the Library by renewal dates and is used for manually preparing renewal lists. The Library possesses a Programmatic Flexowriter and has a Selectadata Flexowriter on order. (The latter machine will print out selected data from

an input of punched tape or edge-punched cards.) Plans are to utilize this equipment to produce edge-punched Flexowriter cards that will contain information for periodical renewals. These data would be punched at the time the periodical is ordered. There is also a plan to acquire interface accessories which will automatically feed and punch EAM cards from the Flexowriter keyboard.

The Library also wishes to mechanize the ordering and processing of new books. The necessary information would be put into the mechanized record at the time the book is ordered and would be used later to produce charge cards, catalog cards, labels, etc.

Some degree of mechanization of the circulation processes is planned when the size of the circulation warrants it. It is estimated that this will be when the daily circulation, now about 200, reaches 1,000 or more. The Librarian feels that development of sophisticated mechanization should proceed slowly, and that the first activities to be mechanized should be those that are clerical and repetitive; this would free the staff for other tasks. The philosophy is that students should learn to make literature searches manually, since most of their assignments after graduation will not provide mechanized information retrieval services.

III. DEVELOPMENT COSTS

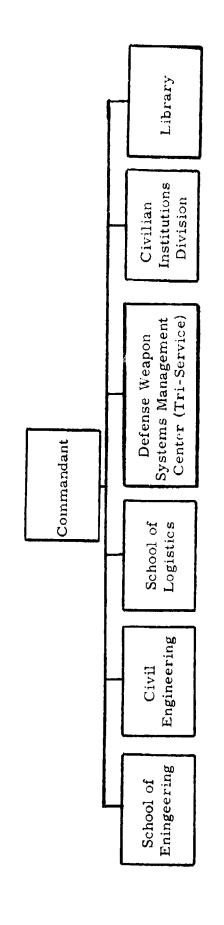
The Library staff spent time working on the program as follows:

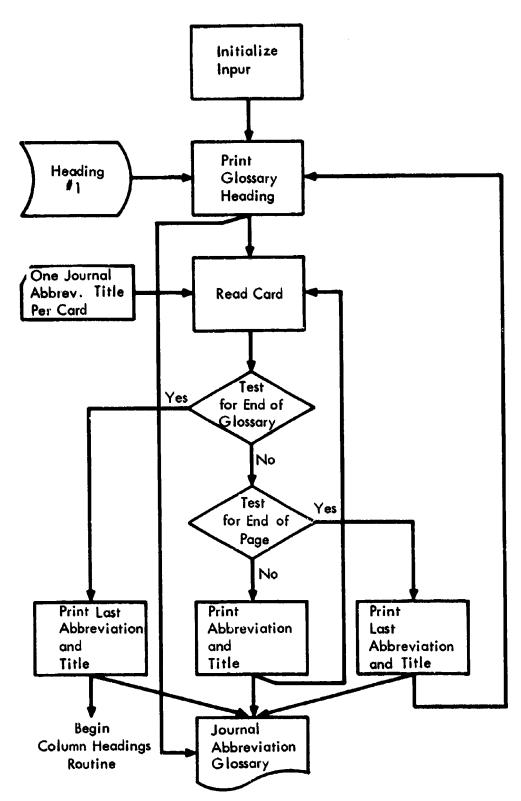
- 6 man-hours developing format
- 30 man-hours preparing EAM card worksheets for 1,540 titles
- 12 man-hours checking punched EAM cards
- 12 man-hours proofreading printout

The cost of this time is estimated at \$300.

No cost information was available from the AFIT data center, since the program that was developed was one of the first programs produced by the center and was considered largely experimental.

AIR FORCE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



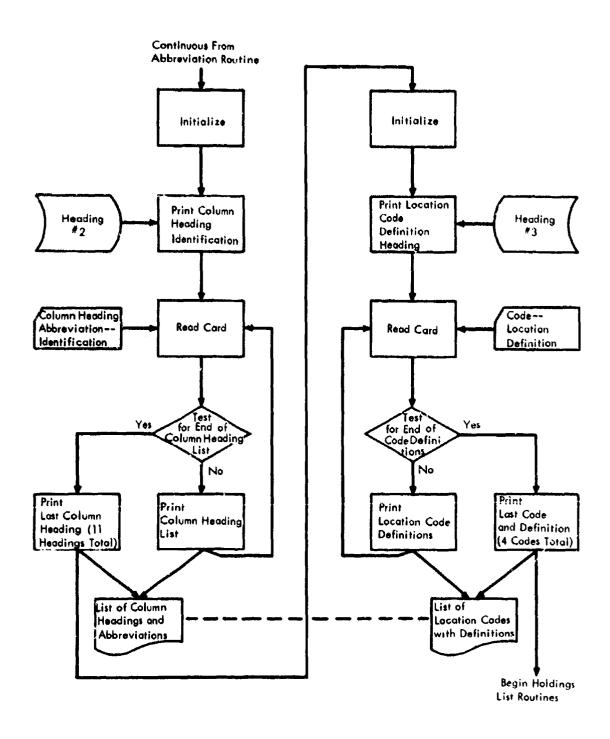


Print Journal Abbreviation Glossary Routine

Abbreviation Glossary

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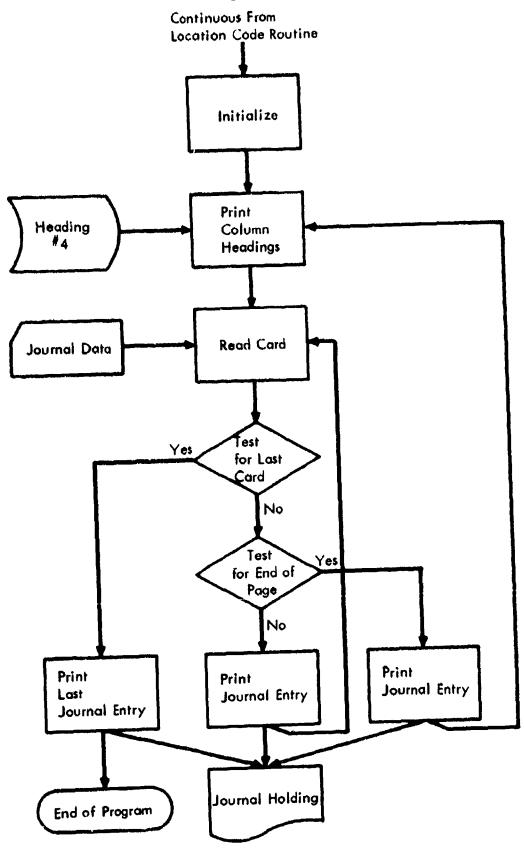


Print Column Headings and Print Location Codes Routines

Column Heading Identification and Location Code Definitions List

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Print Journal Holdings Routine

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